



FIRST THINGS FIRST

Ready for School. Set for Life.

ARIZONA EARLY CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENT & HEALTH BOARD

NORTH PHOENIX REGIONAL PARTNERSHIP COUNCIL

1. CALL TO ORDER: The regular meeting of the First Things First North Phoenix Regional Partnership Council; Arizona Early Childhood Development and Health Board was held on Tuesday, June 14, 2011 in the Governing Board Room at the Washington Elementary School District, 4650 West Sweetwater; Glendale, Arizona 85304.

Chair Goad called the meeting to order at 4:37 pm.

Members Present: Jenna Goad, Chair and Parent Member; Cindy Hallman, Vice Chair and Business Member; Connie Robinson, Philanthropy Member; Willette Watts, Faith Based Member; Barbara Nicol, At Large Member; Bill Adams, School Administrator Member.

Members Not Present: James Emch, At Large Member; Sally Downing, Education Member.

Member Present By Phone: Mindy Zapata, Child Care Provider.

Quorum: Established.

Staff Present: Tracey Craig, Senior Director Greater Phoenix/Yavapai Region; Briggetta Hawks, Administrative Assistant; and Marlene Moreno, Community Outreach Coordinator.

2. CONSENT AGENDA: Included in an e-packet prior to the meeting and to the Council in hard copy at the meeting were the regular meeting minutes of May 10, 2011.

Motion: Member Willette Watts moved to approve the regular meeting minutes of May 10, 2011, second by Vice Chair Cindy Hallman, all in favor, no discussion; motion carried.

3. CALL TO THE PUBLIC: Anne Varner from Child Care Health Consultation hearing and screening provided an update that her program is up and running. Ms. Varner would like to be placed on the August 2011 agenda to provide a full report.

4. CALL TO THE PRESENTERS: Sarah Ocampo presented to the Council an update on the Kith & Kin project which included that all of the eight (8) groups funded have been provided. Ms. Ocampo requested assistance from the Council in identifying any schools or faith based community members that may be interested in the program. Ms. Ocampo was thanked for her hard work and presentation.

5. CHAIR AND VICE CHAIR ELECTIONS: According to the Governance Policy for the North Phoenix Council, at the first regular meeting of the Council following May 1st of each fiscal year, the Council shall elect a Chairperson and Vice Chairperson from among the appointed members to serve for the ensuing fiscal year beginning July 1st and shall hold office for twelve months and until successors are duly elected. The new terms for Chair and Vice Chair will be from July 1, 2011 through June 30, 2012.

Chair Goad advised that she will not be seeking another term as Chair of the North Phoenix Council due to other obligations. The Council was asked to consider the two nominations: Cindy Hallman for Chair, and Connie Robinson for Vice Chair. The Council also had room to write in nominations.

Motion: Member Bill Adams moved to accept the nominations Cindy Hallman for Chair, and Connie Robinson for Vice Chair, second by Member Willette Watts, all in favor, no discussion; motion carried.

The current Chair and Vice Chair were thanked for all of their hard work, direction, dedication, intelligence, and guidance.

6. CHILD CARE SCHOLARSHIPS: At the May Council meeting, Jackie Keller from Valley of the Sun United Way presented the following information:

The Council is currently funding 126 scholarship slots. The budgets for SFY 2011 and SFY2012 are sufficient to sustain an additional 119 scholarships for a total of 245. The budget is also sufficient to accommodate the expansion of the eligibility from three to five to zero to five. In considering whether to expand scholarship eligibility, the Council may wish to consider the following: 1. Effective SFY2013, the Regions will cover a portion of the State Quality First Costs and 2.The cost of quality.

Chair Jenna Goad previously mentioned that she would like to see those parents that make more money offset the cost of care and allow for additional scholarships. This is still something that Jenna would like the Council to look into.

Motion: Member Bill Adams moved to table the discussion around the expansion of Quality First eligibility until further information is obtained regarding the financial impact of the forthcoming changes in the Quality First system, second by Member Connie Robinson, all in favor, no discussion; motion carried.

7. 2011/2012 IMPLEMENTATION/DIRECTOR REPORT: 7A: **Family Resource Centers:** In April, Director Karen Yearwood and Program Staff met with representatives from Paradise Valley Unified School District and Deer Valley Unified School District. Both School Districts expressed an interest in partnering to design and implement a Family Resource Center to serve families with children zero to five in the North Phoenix zip codes. A proposal was received from Paradise Valley Unified School District and is currently in the review process. The proposal from Deer Valley Unified School District is expected within the next month. Director Yearwood and Outreach Coordinator Moreno are currently making contacts within the faith-based community to increase awareness of First Things First and the processes in preparation for a re-release of a Request for Grant Application for the Family Resource Center in the Faith Based Community.

Motion: Member Bill Adams moved to direct staff to enter into an inter-governmental agreement with the Paradise Valley Unified School District and the Deer Valley School District to open a Family Resource Center with a range not to exceed eighty five thousand dollars (\$85,000.00) to one hundred fifty thousand dollars (\$150,000.00), second by Member Connie Robinson, all in favor, no discussion; motion carried.

Representation: Member Connie Robinson will remain the representative on behalf of the Council to review the scope of work documents for the remaining Family Resource Centers.

7B. Quality First Rating System: The Quality First Rating System and the Quality First Financing Model will be implemented in phases beginning July 2011. In preparation for the formal presentation at the First Things First Board meeting on June 13-14, 2011, Quality First Public Forums were held to present the final draft of the Quality Rating System and Financial Model. The targeted audiences for the forums were the early care and education provider community. Since regional council members may not have had the opportunity to attend the forums, two webinars have been scheduled: Monday, June 13, 2011 from 11:00 am – 12:30 pm and Thursday, July 7, 2011 from 9:00 – 10:30 am. Senior Director Tracey Craig encouraged the Council to participate in one of the webinars. **7C. Advisory Committees:** The Advisory Committees have been meeting monthly to carry on the work of the Arizona Early Childhood Task Force in defining the role for First Things First within the Early Childhood System. Senior Director Tracey Craig advised the Council that there has been a lot of feedback on indicators. There were originally twenty identified and that was narrowed down to eight. The Council was encouraged to provide their feedback through a survey the Council should have received in their email inbox. The Board will vote to approve the indicators and align the strategies to the indicators. **7D. Regional Boundaries:** The First Things First Statutes provides the Board the opportunity every two years to review the regional boundaries that have been established and make changes based on that review. The original twenty one boundaries were established in the fall of 2007; and ten tribes made the decision to have their tribal lands designated as a separate region. An assessment in May 2009 recommended to the Board to make only minimal changes around zip codes and specific cities. The Council will receive a survey that Tracey encouraged each member to fill out. The survey is due June 24, 2011. The recommendations from the survey will be presented to the State Board at their August 2011 meeting.

8. GOVERNANCE: 8A. Council Member Attendance: Senior Director Tracey Craig brought to the attention of the Council a few highlights of the Attendance Policy in the Governance Policy to include the expectations for all Council Members to attend all of the meetings; and that an advance notice of two weeks must be given in order for an absence to be excused. Senior Director Craig advised that a reminder was brought forward due to the last meeting being cut short as a result of members having to leave early and the loss of quorum. Members were encouraged to inform staff as soon as possible if they are going to miss a meeting or if they will need to leave early from the meeting. **8B. Council Member Recruitment:** An outreach letter was sent out to members of the community. Council Members were encouraged to send the letter out to their contacts. Applicants can apply online or by paper application and must either live or work in the Region. The current vacancies on the North Phoenix Council is the Health Services Provider, and an At Large Seat.

9. DIRECTOR UPDATES: 9A. Valley of the Sun United Way Targeted Approach – Literacy: At the last Council meeting Council Member Robinson requested more information on how many school readiness kits were distributed in English and how many were distributed in Spanish. English: 2009/2010 = 3,851 and in 2010/2011, 3,690. Spanish: 2009/2010 = 1,149 and 2010/2011 = 1,454. **9B. First Things First Chief Executive Officer Visit:** Tracey let the Council know that Rhian Evans Allvin will be in attendance at the next regularly scheduled Council meeting July 12, 2011. Member Connie Robinson informed the Council that she will be in New York during that time and unable to attend the meeting. **9C. First Things First Relationship with Sub-grantees:** Senior Director Tracey Craig provided the Council information on a question asked to Josh Allen, Chief Operations Officer/Chief Financial Officer about grantee/sub-grantee relationships and the lack of requirement for the grantee to have the sub-grantee submit reimbursements on the same schedule. In checking with legal counsel, First Things First is not requiring that grantees require their sub-grantees to submit reimbursements on the same schedule. In the event that the situation creates an expenditure gap that raises a red flag, the grantee will be removed from the concern/watch list.

10. COUNCIL MEMBER UPDATES: 10A. Community Outreach Forum: Member Connie Robinson provided the Council with an oral update on the Community Outreach Forum that she attended on April 25, 2011. The desired goal of this meeting was to draft an implementation plan and timeline and the purpose was to review the statewide goals and objectives of the First Things First Communication Plan. Some of the options for the Council to consider are: Plan a retreat on a day/time apart from a regular Council Meeting, Extend a regular Council meeting and dedicate the entire agenda to developing the plan, or appoint a subcommittee of the Council to work on the plan and report back to the entire Council. **10B. Coordination of Early Childhood Programs in Maricopa County:** Vice Chair Cindy Hallman provided an oral update on the meeting she attended at Virginia Piper Trust on behalf of the Council May 12, 2011 facilitated by Linda Cannon. In addition to this meeting, Member Watts participates in a monthly meeting with Northeast and Northwest Maricopa which focus on cross regional coordination and collaboration. The First Things First Statute which governs the program requirements and permitted objectives for First Things First indicates that it is the intent of the citizens to provide coordination and funding for early childhood and development health programs in Arizona.


11. COMMUNITY OUTREACH COORDINATOR UPDATES: Community Outreach Coordinator Marlene Moreno provided an overview to the Council of the written report provided in an email to the Council prior to the meeting and in hard copy at the meeting. Marlene was thanked for her report and outreach efforts. Marlene indicated that there are still Members of the Council that she would like to meet with on a one on one basis. Efforts will be made to coordinate these meetings.

9. NEXT SCHEDULED MEETING: Tuesday, July 12, 2011 at 4:30 pm located at the Washington Elementary School District in the Governing Board Room; 4650 West Sweetwater, Glendale, Arizona 85304.

Member Bill Adams thanked Senior Director Tracey Craig for staffing the meeting and again thanked the Chair Jenna Goad and Vice Chair Cindy Hallman for their service to the Council.

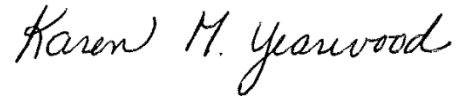
10. ADJOURNMENT: Vice Chair Cindy Hallman moved to adjourn the regular meeting, second by Member Bill Adams, all in favor, no discussion; motion carried.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED



Briggetta Hawks, Administrative Assistant

APPROVED



Karen Yearwood, Regional Director

COUNCIL APPROVAL



Jenna Goad, Chair